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PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHNK #0696 3011016  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
P 281016Z OCT 09  
FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8856  
INFO RHMFISS/HQ USAFRICOM STUTTGART GE

UNCLAS NOUAKCHOTT 000696

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: [MCAP](#) [MASS](#) [PGOV](#) [MR](#)  
SUBJECT: MAURITANIA: FY 2010 1206 PROPOSALS TO ESTABLISH  
VIABLE COUNTERTERRORISM CAPABILITIES

REF: A. STATE 92407  
[1](#)B. NOUAKCHOTT 617  
[1](#)C. NOUAKCHOTT 694

This is a corrected copy of REFTEL B to include Human Rights  
Certification

[1](#)1. (SBU) In response to reftel, Post supports the following  
two fiscal year 2010 (FY10) National Defense Authorization  
Act (NDAA) section 1206 funded proposals totaling \$16.1  
million from US Africa Command for:

- Mauritania counter-terrorism company T&E - \$10.50 million
- Maintenance/logistics sustainment company - \$5.60 million.

These proposals support the goals and objectives of US  
Embassy Nouakchott, the Trans-Sahara Counter Terrorism  
Partnership (TSCTP) and US Africa Command's Operation  
Enduring Freedom-Trans Sahara (OEF-TS). The Chief of Mission  
has reviewed and concurs with these proposals.

[1](#)2. (SBU) Mauritanian cooperation in counterterrorism  
activities continues to go beyond statements of support and  
they have taken tangible action. Mauritania, a TSCTP partner  
nation, has demonstrated the willingness to act against  
terrorist organizations of interest to the US. However, the  
government's capacity for action remains limited and the USG  
needs to continue its efforts to strengthen it. The  
capabilities that would be provided by these proposals will  
enhance Mauritania's contribution to the US overseas  
contingency operations CT efforts and directly support the  
Embassy's Mission Strategic Plan.

[1](#)3. (SBU) Post certifies that it is aware of no human rights  
violations having been committed by existing Mauritanian Units  
selected for training (the GSI 1 and 3). Both units have  
previously passed Leahy Vetting and updated requests have  
been initiated per REFTEL c. GSI 2 is a new unit that has no  
prior history. That unit and its commander are included in  
REFTEL C. The Maintenance/Logistics Sustainment Company does  
not yet exist. Leahy Vetting will be initiated for that Unit  
once it is stood up.

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